

ing. This can take many forms, and individual needs and time constraints will determine the level of activity. There are indeed many approaches and articles in this area and need not be addressed here. The most important aspect of monitoring is consistency. Whatever level of monitoring is selected, it is critical that a written routine be developed to provide continuity. If you examine cases, do so on at regular intervals. Hopefully, the exhibit will be set up to facilitate this, but frequently will not. Of course, it is ideal to have every artifact against a white background, but in most exhibit situations you will have to adjust to the prevailing conditions. The emphasis in monitoring is on inspection and taking preventative action in the form of adding additional pest barriers or increased housekeeping.

Additionally, monitoring against a time frame will prove to be a valuable predictive tool in your exhibit pest management. If possible, collect your observations for data entry at a later time. Although this can involve a significant time commitment, it can really add to your overall efforts to protect exhibit items on display for long periods. For instance, the emergence of the adult form of *Anthrenus verbasci* can be reliably predicted at the MARS facility. Consequently, proactive decisions can be made. Cabinets are not opened during that period unless it is absolutely necessary. This type of action will help minimize the risk of adults laying their eggs directly on attractive materials. Perhaps cleaning the exhibits can be avoided or minimized during the emergent cycle at your locale. This may not make a large difference overall, but small actions add up and potentially protect collections in the long run.

The final point—related to monitoring—is perhaps one of the most neglected. Many times

staff at sites are under considerable time constraints with many other assigned duties. It is very easy to fall behind on inspection when other concerns take precedence.

One solution is creating a list of those items on exhibit that are made or composed of materials that are most prone to insect attack. These are the items that absolutely should be checked habitually for indications of infestations. Clearly, there are types of collections that require more frequent inspection than others. Natural History collections are extremely vulnerable and by the time an infestation is detected, it is entirely too late. Other artifacts may be of materials particularly attractive to specific pest species common in your area. Thus, being aware of the material types within your exhibit will enable you to make a special effort toward those items when time is at a premium. This is not to say replace regular inspection with a shortened version, but to have an available abbreviated item list when circumstances prevent the full routine. Alternative procedures will add to the protection of the collection by providing options when the situation dictates otherwise.

Alternatives are the key to pest management and following procedures developed at some other site could be a mistake. Your exhibit is unique, and therefore deserves its own specialized plan developed by the people who know it best. Integrated Pest Management is not some mysterious science; it is straightforward and will over time be instrumental in preserving your exhibit items.

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Doug Stover and Mike Antonioni

## *Exhibiting Color Copies*

**T**here is an increasing need to exhibit museum documents within visitor centers that don't have an HVAC system, security system, museum integrated pest management plan, and ultra violet light protection. After experimenting with different copying machines, we discovered that the Canon CJ10 color copier works the best.

We experimented using uv film to protect the document on the copier. Most black and white copiers have cloth bottoms under the lid that it can tear the document when it is placed on the glass for copying. The color copier has a plastic bottom on the lid. The plastic lid has a solid, smooth surface so that it will not tear the document when it is placed on the glass for copying.

Recently, we were asked to find some documents for a new visitor center in Williamsport, Maryland. We found that the copies looked so realistic, even the stains from the original were showing up.

Even the park rangers thought the copies were original documents, until they were told that they were only color photocopies.

Placing color copies of original documents on exhibit does not require the day-to-day care of exhibiting a rare piece.

It is also a good idea to obtain a rubber stamp that marks it as a reproduction.

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